



The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services



Michael P. Nolin
Commissioner

May 3, 2006
Letter of Deficiency
DSP#06-014

Mr. Eric Small
Superintendent
Town of Hampton Falls
1 Drinkwater Road
Hampton Falls, NH 03844

RE: Dodge Pond Dam #106.01, Hampton Falls

Dear Mr. Small:

The Department of Environmental Services, Dam Bureau (DES) consistently strives to enhance the safety of dams in New Hampshire through its dam safety program. One of the many instruments that play a part in reaching this goal is our inspection program. DES is forwarding this correspondence to you to advise you that in accordance with RSA 482:12 and Env-Wr 302.02, an inspection of the subject dam was conducted on April 12, 2006. During this visual inspection and/or file review, the following deficiencies were observed:

1. The dam cannot pass the design storm event with 1' of freeboard and no operations;
2. There was minor concrete deterioration at the base of the left stoplog bay training wall;
3. There were trees and brush along the upstream face of the dam that extends 400 feet to the left of the outlet looking downstream;
4. There is no operation and maintenance plan (O&M) on file with DES; and
5. With an upgrade in hazard classification, an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) will be required.

DES believes that the above deficiencies can be corrected by performing the following items by the indicated schedule:

June 1, 2006:

1. Lower the water level in the pond by removing 2 feet of stoplogs. This will bring the water level to elevation 6.8' (October 1998 level);
2. Prepare and submit to the DES a written operation and maintenance plan. The plan should describe the control of impoundment levels, monitoring and maintenance procedures, and identify emergency contact personnel. Enclosed is an example plan and guidelines for your reference;

December 1, 2006:

3. Remove trees and brush along the upstream face of the dam extending 400 feet to the left of the outlet looking downstream;

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4. Complete repairs to the left stoplog bay training wall where deteriorated concrete was noted;
5. Complete a draft EAP. Contact Ms. Bethann McCarthy, P.E., EAP Coordinator, at 603-271-3406 or email her at bmccarthy@des.state.nh.us; and
6. Further lower the permanent pool elevation in the pond to the crest of the stoplog bay, elevation 4.7'. Notify the public of this lowering in accordance with RSA 482:13 (enclosed).


DES has upgraded the hazard classification of this dam from a low hazard, Class A, structure to a significant hazard, Class B, structure due to the crest of the dam serving as a primary state highway. A failure of the dam would cause structural damage to a Class 1 roadway (Env-Wr 101.08-c). A significant hazard dam is inspected by this office once every 4 years. The dam owner will be assessed an annual dam registration fee of \$300.00. The EAP, once completed, must be reviewed annually and tested once every 4 years.

DES is requesting that you complete and submit the attached "Intent to Complete Repairs" form, within 30 days of receipt of this letter, that will provide for correction of the identified deficiencies by the date(s) indicated above. Please call or write to our office if the repairs are completed ahead of the aforementioned schedule so that DES may schedule a follow-up inspection. Unless notified otherwise, DES will conduct the follow-up inspection on or after the date(s) indicated above. If you believe changes to the items of work or dates are necessary, please make the changes directly on the form and provide a brief explanation. We have enclosed a self addressed stamped envelope for you to return this form.

Our intent in sending you this correspondence is to make you aware of items that DES believes warrant your attention to insure the continued safe operation of your dam. It is our hope that, through the submittal of the attached form and a commitment to keeping a well-maintained dam, you will voluntarily comply with the requested items of work. If we do not receive the intent form or a similarly adequate written reply, we will assume that you are in agreement with our findings and recommendations and DES will carry out follow-up inspections accordingly.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this Letter of Deficiency or would like to be present at future inspections, please contact me at 271-3406, or write to the Water Division at the address listed on the bottom of the previous page.

Sincerely,


Grace E. Levergood, P.E.
Dam Safety Engineer

Attachments Guideline for an O&M plan, DB8, DB13, RSA 482:13, Sketch Illustrating Deficiencies

cc: Gretchen R. Hamel, Legal Unit Administrator✓

Bethann McCarthy, DES EAP Coordinator

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